

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the Abstract with the following new Abstract:

A peripheral device for a programmable logic controller includes an encrypter, an external storage that stores peripheral authentication data that has been encrypted, an internal storage that stores peripheral device authentication data that has been encrypted, a decrypter, and a verifier that determines whether or not use of the peripheral device for the programmable logic controller is authorized by checking the peripheral device authentication data read out and decrypted from the external storage, against the peripheral device authentication data read out and decrypted from the internal storage. If the verifier authorizes use of the peripheral device, encrypted authentication data is read out of the internal or external storage, decrypted, and transmitted to a PC for authorizing reading and writing of data in the PC.